



NEWS TO USE

A newsletter for PERSI employers

September 2004

- Statements, handbooks sent
- Employer meetings
- 401(k) Day

Annual Base Plan Statements go out this week; handbooks sent over last two weeks

PERSI Base Plan Benefit Statements will be mailed to all active members beginning September 3. The mailing is done in batches of 20,000 each week, so it will take three weeks for all statements to go out, meaning some of your employees may receive theirs earlier than others do.

Statements are mailed to the member's address of record. If that address is their place of employment, you will receive the statement to distribute. Statements will not be forwarded if we receive them back with bad addresses, however; within a few weeks, employees will be able to look up their statements online on PERSI's Website.

In addition, new PERSI Member Handbooks were mailed to all active members' home addresses in late August. Supplies of handbooks are also available to employers who wish to have them on hand to distribute. To request handbooks, contact Betsy Griffith at bgriffit@persi.state.id.us or 287-9297.

Employer meetings cover many topics

Over the summer, PERSI held 16 meetings with employers across the state. Some 229 employers covering 35,173 employees attended meetings held in Sandpoint, Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston, McCall, Nampa, Boise, Twin Falls, Pocatello and Twin Falls.

Topics covered included: PERSI legislation, transmittal issues, Police Officer status for various positions in counties, sick leave accrual and Class 3 definitions for schools, and a 401(k) overview.

We wish to thank all those employer representatives who attended, and hope to see the rest of you in future meetings. In upcoming issues of News to Use, we will cover some of the topics discussed at the meetings.

Record number retire in September

Each September we have a surge of retirements, as that is the month that teachers retire, and school districts make up some 40% of PERSI's membership.

In addition, every year we set a new record for the number of September retirees. This year is no exception as we celebrated 595 new retirements, breaking last year's record of 538 big time!

A "normal" month has about 100 retirees. But, in spite of this huge surge, PERSI staff gave it their all to ensure that all new retirees would make the September payroll, and we are proud to say everyone did.

We would like to thank all our staff who worked so hard to make this happen and offer congratulations to all our new retirees!

Help PERSI celebrate National 401(k) Day on September 7

Tuesday, September 7 is National 401(k) Day. On Friday, September 3, we will e-mail you a message similar to the notice below. If possible, we would appreciate if it if you would forward the message to all your employees on the the seventh. The e-mail version will have links right to the Enrollment Form and the Choice Plan 401(k) Webpage. Thank you for helping PERSI celebrate National 401(k) Day!

It's National 401(k) Day

with your



PERSI Choice Plan 401(k)

Looking forward to retirement?

Imagine yourself basking on the beach, cruising cross-county in your RV,
or just gardening in your own back yard.

Whatever your retirement dream is, we can help make it happen.

This 401(k) Day, you can make the most of your PERSI Choice Plan 401(k).

The PERSI Choice Plan 401(k) offers these valuable benefits:

- * Pre-tax contributions mean you pay less taxes
- * Your investment is tax-deferred until you withdraw your funds
- * Convenient payroll deduction
- * Loans available
- * You can contribute whatever percentage of pay you want
- * 11 Investment options to choose from
- * 24-hour access to your account information
- * Rollovers from other qualified retirement accounts allowed
- * Immediate 100% vesting of your funds

To start contributing, or to up your contribution amount today,
fill out an Enrollment Form and turn it in to your payroll/HR department.

For more information:

Call toll-free 1-866-ID-PERSI (1-866-437-3774)

Or visit our Choice Plan 401(k) webpage at www.persi.state.id.us/choice.htm